

# ISLE of PALMS

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## [ From the Publisher ]

At the end of my street, just down from the Recreation Department, was the Isle of Palms Airport. It had an airstrip composed of crushed oyster shells that ran along the Intracoastal Waterway. Directly across from the 2,900-foot-long runway was Goat Island. The year was 1979, and my oldest son, Drew, and I lived at #4 29th Ave.

I've wanted to publish a story about the Isle of Palms Airport for a good while now, mostly because it is part of the island's history. It's also etched in my memories of younger years – parking with friends along the runway overlooking the waterway. There are stories of adventurous pilots flying into this little-known airstrip carrying popular illegal contraband of the time. The Isle of Palms Airport, along with the stories and memories, gave way to a new island golf course and golf course homes back in the mid '80s.

Thanks, Bill Farley, for stepping back in time and bringing this story to us.

Speaking of our past, September 1989 was a time you won't forget if you lived on the Isle of Palms. It was the year Hurricane Hugo struck our beaches. My small company was publishing *East Cooper Magazine*, the predecessor of *Mount Pleasant Magazine*. All the members of our publishing team were Hugo survivors, and we were dying to tell the world our stories about this horrific act of nature. The result was a keepsake magazine called *Hurricane Hugo - Storm Of The Century*. We relived our experiences through the pages of this documentary. One of the stories is on pages 31 and 32 of this issue of *Isle of Palms Magazine*. I vividly remember the evening we sent the Hugo magazine to the printer. Finishing the publication provided a great sense of relief for our team. It was as if all of us had pushed the psychological aftermath of Hugo out our door. You can read the entire Hurricane Hugo magazine at [www.HugoMagazine.com](http://www.HugoMagazine.com).

There is so much more I want to bring to your attention, such as Brian Sherman's interview with beloved Public Works Director Donnie Pitts, turtles being released back into the ocean, the upcoming referendum on the Isle Of Palms Marina and the 25th annual Isle of Palms Connector Run and Walk for the Child. The interview with longtime Charleston Mayor Joe Riley is certainly worth the read as well.

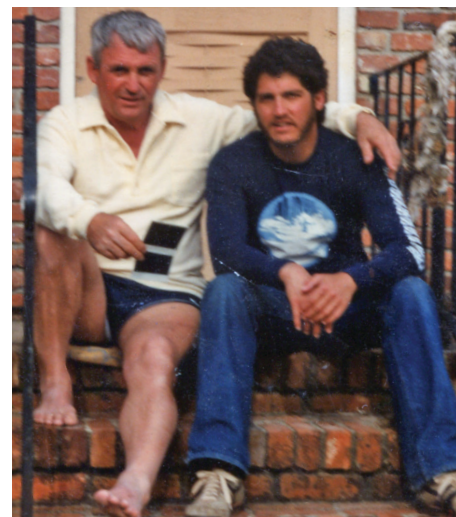
There's a lot to enjoy about Isle of Palms, in print as well as online. Check out [www.ILoveIOP.com](http://www.ILoveIOP.com), [www.ReadIOPmag.com](http://www.ReadIOPmag.com) and [www.IsleOfPalmsMagazine.com](http://www.IsleOfPalmsMagazine.com).

This magazine and these websites come to you because of our passion for our craft and our love for Isle of Palms. Thanks for reading our magazine. 🌴

Enjoy,

Bill Macchio

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Bud, left, and Bill Macchio, sometime around 1980, at #4 29th Ave. in Isle of Palms.